

CLAIMS

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A compact multiple pocket processing system comprising:
an input receptacle adapted to receive a stack of currency documents;
5 a plurality of output receptacles, each adapted to receive a stack of currency documents;
an evaluation unit positioned between the input receptacle and the plurality of output receptacles, wherein the evaluation unit is adapted to determine denomination of a currency document; and
10 a transportation mechanism adapted to transport currency documents from the input receptacle past the evaluation unit to the plurality of output receptacles, wherein the transportation mechanism comprises:
a facing section positioned upstream of the one or more output receptacles;
and
15 a throughway section positioned upstream of the one or more output receptacles, wherein currency documents selectively faced; and
wherein the compact processing system as a volume less than about 25,000 inches³.
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2. The system of Claim 1, wherein a majority of the plurality of output receptacles are positioned below the transport mechanism.
3. The system of Claim 1, further comprising a router positioned to route currency bills to one of either the facing section or the throughway section.
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4. The system of Claim 3, wherein the facing mechanism is positioned downstream of the router.

5. The system of Claim 1, wherein the compact processing system includes a housing having a width less than an about 4.5 feet, a height less than about 2.25 feet and depth less than about 1.5 feet.

5 6. The system of Claim 1, comprising at least one user interface positioned near the input receptacle.

7. A compact multi-pocket currency sorter, comprising:
a housing having a width, a depth and a height;
10 an input receptacle for receiving currency to be sorted;
at least five output receptacles contained within the housing and into which sorted currency is received; and
a currency processing mechanism contained within the housing, the currency processing mechanism receiving currency from the input receptacle, processing the currency,
15 and sorting the currency into selected ones of the at least five output receptacles;
wherein the housing width is no more than about 54 inches, the housing depth is no more than about 17 inches and the housing height is no more than about 27 inches.

8. The sorter of claim 7 wherein the at least five output receptacles are positioned
20 side-by-side across a bottom portion of the housing.

9. The sorter of claim 8 further including an additional off sort output receptacle, wherein the currency processing mechanism selectively sorts currency into the off sort output receptacle.
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10. The sorter of claim 9 wherein the off sort output receptacle is separately positioned in the housing away from the at least five output receptacles.

11. The sorter of claim 7 wherein the at least five output receptacles do not
30 include a storage cassette functionality.

12. The sorter of claim 7 wherein the currency processing mechanism includes a currency facing mechanism to selectively change face orientation of currency before being sorted into selected ones of the at least five output receptacles.

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13. The sorter of claim 12 wherein the currency facing mechanism comprises:
a facing path that flips currency orientation;
a throughway path which does not flip currency orientation; and
a path selection device for choosing to route currency through the facing path
10 or throughway path.

14. The sorter of claim 13 wherein the throughway path and the facing path have substantially identical path transit times.

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15. The sorter of claim 13 wherein the throughway path and the facing path have substantially identical path lengths.

16. The sorter of claim 13 wherein the currency facing mechanism further includes a merging device to merge currency traveling in the facing path with currency
20 traveling in the throughway path.

17. A compact multi-pocket currency sorter, comprising:
a housing containing a volume of not more than about 25,000 cubic inches;
an input receptacle for receiving currency to be sorted;
at least five output receptacles contained within the housing and into which
5 sorted currency is received; and
a currency processing mechanism contained within the housing, the currency
processing mechanism receiving currency from the input receptacle, processing the currency,
and sorting the currency into selected ones of the at least five output receptacles.

10 18. The sorter of claim 17 wherein the at least five output receptacles are
positioned side-by-side across a bottom portion of the housing.

15 19. The sorter of claim 18 further including an additional off sort output
receptacle, wherein the currency processing mechanism selectively sorts currency into the off
sort output receptacle.

20 20. The sorter of claim 19 wherein the off sort output receptacle is separately
positioned in the housing away from the at least five output receptacles.

20 21. The sorter of claim 17 wherein the at least five output receptacles do not
include a storage cassette functionality.

25 22. The sorter of claim 17 wherein the currency processing mechanism includes a
currency facing mechanism to selectively change face orientation of currency before being
sorted into selected ones of the at least five output receptacles.

23. The sorter of claim 22 wherein the currency facing mechanism comprises:
a facing path that flips currency orientation;
a throughway path which does not flip currency orientation; and

a path selection device for choosing to route currency through the facing path or throughway path.

5 24. The sorter of claim 23 wherein the throughway path and the facing path have substantially identical path transit times.

 25. The sorter of claim 23 wherein the throughway path and the facing path have substantially identical path lengths.

10 26. The sorter of claim 23 wherein the currency facing mechanism further includes a merging device to merge currency traveling in the facing path with currency traveling in the throughway path.